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YORK, *Nov.* 27, 1758.

AN Advertiſement having been diſperſed on *Saturday* laſt, wherein I am call'd upon to declare, Whether I had any Authority from Mr. *Lane*, or his Son, or their Agents, to call a Meeting on *Friday* the 22d, and on *Sunday* the 24th of *September* laſt, at the Manſion-Houſe, and alſo by what Authority I ſummon'd the Citizens together on *Monday* the 25th of that Month: And Mr. *Robert Lane* having alſo publickly declared, in Print, That the Meeting held at the Manſion-Houſe, on *Sunday* the ſaid 24th of *September* laſt, was call'd without any Authority from his Father or himſelf, I think it a Duty owing to Truth, to Juſtice, and to my own Character, to declare the ſincere Matter of Fact, to the beſt of my Knowledge, Remembrance, and Belief.

On *Friday* the 22d of *September* a Meeting of many principal Citizens was held at the Manſion Houſe, by the Deſire of Alderman *Farrer*, who invited thither ſuch Perſons as he thought moſt proper. The Company being aſſembled, he told them, That, at the Requeſt of Alderman *Lane* and his Son, they were deſired to give their Sentiments, whether it would be proper for Mr. *Robert Lane* to offer himſelf a Candidate to repreſent this City in Parliament, on the unhappy Occaſion of Sir *John Armytage*'s Death: Adding, That Mr. *Lane* and his Son would be therein guided by the Advice of their Friends. The unanimous Opinion was, That Mr. *Lane* ſhould drop his Pretenſions at this Time, on Condition Mr. *Thornton* would not oppoſe the Choice of Mr. *Lane*, or his Son, at the next general Election. By the Deſire of the Company I ſent for Mr. *Robert Lane*, who ſeem'd, in my Opinion, to be well pleaſed with the Propoſal; adding, That he would go back to *Bramham-Park* to acquaint his Father with what had paſs'd, and be with me at the Manſion-Houſe the next Morning by eight o'Clock: But, inſtead of coming there according to his Promiſe, he ſent Dr. *Burton* to Mr. *Ward*'s Printing-Office, with an Advertiſement in the Hand-writing of Mr. Sheriff *Wallis*, and ſign'd by himſelf, declaring himſelf a Candidate. Being aſtoniſhed at his taking this Step, without communicating the Reaſons for this Alteration of his Sentiments, to his Friends whom he had met the Day before, I ſent to the Printing-Office to deſire to ſee the Advertiſement, which being ſent to me, I thought it neceſſary to ſtop the printing of it. And hearing that Mr. *Thornton* was about publiſhing an Advertiſement of his Intentions, I ſent and ſtopp'd that alſo, apprehending it to be my Duty to preſerve, as far as in me lay, the Peace of the City: And accordingly I call'd a ſecond Meeting of Mr. *Lane*'s Friends, with the Concurrence and Approbation of Alderman *Farrer*. Now, as that Gentleman had produced Alderman *Lane*'s Letter, authorizing the firſt Meeting, how was it poſſible for me to ſuppoſe that the ſecond was without his Authority; ſince Mr. *Farrer* appeared, to the Company, to be as much Mr. *Lane*'s Agent at the ſecond Meeting as at the firſt, and declared that the Reſolution of the ſaid ſecond Meeting was to be Final; and that Mr. *Lane* and Son would abide by their Determination? The Conſequence was, that the Reſolution of *Friday* was confirmed; Mr. *Thornton* was ſent for, and came attended by ſeveral of his Friends, who agreeing to accept, and abide by, the Terms propoſed, I call'd a general Meeting of the Citizens at the *Guildhall* the next Day, where Mr. *Thornton* was declared the Candidate by the common Voice; and no Oppoſition appeared thereto, from Mr. *Lane*, till laſt Week.

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It is neceſſary to obſerve farther, That on *Thurſday* Morning laſt, when there was a Report That Mr. *Robert Lane* intended to offer himſelf a Candidate, ſome of his Friends, in order to diſſuade him therefrom, urged, as one Reaſon, that the Gentlemen preſent at the two firſt Meetings could not, without Breach of all Faith and Honour, ſerve him; looking upon themſelves obliged to give no Oppoſition to Mr. *Thornton*. Now, if Alderman *Farrer* acted without the Authority of Mr. *Lane* or his Son, Why did not Mr. *Robert Lane* then declare ſo, and thereby diſcharge his Friends from the Obligation they thought themſelves bound in to Mr. *Thornton*? And if Mr. *Robert Lane* was determined to ſtand Candidate, at all Events, Why did he not, at the firſt Meeting, declare it, ſince ſuch a Declaration would have prevented all the unhappy Differences that have ſince followed?

I am extremely concerned that I ſhould be neceſſitated to appear in Print on this Occaſion; but as, I thank God, I have hitherto maintained, and I hope ever ſhall, the Character of an Honeſt Man, I cannot ſuffer my Reputation to be ſacrificed to the Purpoſes of Faction or Ambition.

JOHN ALLANSON, *Mayor*.

We whoſe Names are hereunto ſubſcribed, having been preſent at moſt of the foregoing Tranſactions, and well knowing the Integrity of my Lord Mayor, do declare the above Narrative to be true, to the beſt of our Knowledge, Remembrance, and Belief.

a old friend of mr Lains

JOHN MAYER, CÆSAR WARD, THOMAS VARLEY,
JOHN WAKEFIELD, JOHN RICHARDSON, BARNARD LENTWERE.
WILLIAM YATES,